

--After the recognition is unsuccessful at step 28, step 29 determines whether this is the first pass through the system (meaning there has only been one spoken string hypothesized). If yes, then step 30 is performed to request the person to repeat the digit string. At step 32, this repeated string is received by the system, and at step 34 an n-best list is generated for the second or repeated string. At step 36 there is a comparison of the n-best lists of the first string and second or repeated string. At step 38 a checksum is prepared on both the first and second lists, and steps 20-28 are repeated. If at step 29 it is determined that this is the second pass, then at step 40 additional verification techniques such as a fuzzy technique (described infra) checksum verification, or database match are all performed on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> strings to generate the valid response.--

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Three Times Amended) A method of recognizing a spoken digit string, comprising:
  - (a) receiving the spoken digit string;
  - (b) analyzing the spoken digit string to generate a list of hypothesized digit strings arranged in ranked order based on a likelihood of matching the spoken digit string;
  - (c) determining whether individual hypothesized strings of said list satisfy a given constraint, using a given knowledge based recognition strategy;